

Application No. 10/792,337
Amendment After Final dated September 14, 2006
Reply to Final Office Action of June 14, 2006

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (currently amended): ~~The tibial sizer as defined in Claim 1~~ A tibial sizer for use during knee arthroplasty, said tibial sizer comprising:

a head;
a handle extending outwardly from said head;
a channel extending along said tibial sizer in a longitudinal direction, through at least a portion of said head and at least a portion of said handle; and
a slider configured and arranged to be slidably positioned within said channel, such that said slider is slidable within both said head and said handle, wherein said slider includes at least one set of markings thereon for indicating the amount of exposed bone between a posterior proximal portion of a tibia and a posterior edge of said head of said tibial sizer.

Claim 8 (currently amended): ~~The tibial sizer as defined in Claim 1~~ A tibial sizer for use during knee arthroplasty, said tibial sizer comprising:

a head;
a handle extending outwardly from said head;
a channel extending along said tibial sizer in a longitudinal direction, through at least a portion of said head and at least a portion of said handle; and
a slider configured and arranged to be slidably positioned within said channel, such that said slider is slidable within both said head and said handle, further comprising:
a first set of markings for indicating the amount of exposed bone between a posterior proximal portion of a tibia and a posterior edge of said head of said tibial sizer; and

a second set of markings for indicating a suggested size of tibial base plate with respect to an anterior/posterior direction.

Claim 9 (original): The tibial sizer as defined in Claim 8, wherein said first set of markings are located on said slider, and provide said indication of exposed bone amount when viewed with respect to a terminal edge of said handle.

Claim 10 (original): The tibial sizer as defined in Claim 8, wherein said second set of markings are located on both said slider and said handle.

Claim 11 (original): The tibial sizer as defined in Claim 10, wherein said second set of markings comprise:

indica on said handle representing different sizes of tibial base plates; and
a pointer on said slider for pointing to the indicia on said handle to indicate a suggested size of tibial base plate with respect to the anterior/posterior direction.

Claim 12 (original): The tibial sizer as defined in Claim 8, further comprising a third set of markings, wherein said third set of markings comprise indicia on said slider representing different sizes of tibial base plates, wherein said third set of markings are not visible when said slider is inserted within said channel of said handle, but said third set of markings are visible when said slider is used without said handle, whereby said slider may be used for determining a suggested size of tibial base plate, with respect to the anterior/posterior direction, without said slider being inserted into said channel.

Claim 13 (original): The tibial sizer as defined in Claim 11 wherein:

said handle includes a first surface on one side thereof and a second surface on an opposite side thereof; and

further wherein said second set of markings are visible when viewing both said first surface and said second surface.

Claims 14-18 (cancelled)

Claim 19 (currently amended): ~~The system of tibial sizers as defined in Claim 17~~ A system of tibial sizers for use during knee arthroplasty, said system comprising:

a plurality of differently sized tibial sizers, wherein each tibial sizer includes:

a head;

a handle extending outwardly from said head; and

a channel extending along said tibial sizer in a longitudinal direction, through at least a portion of said head and at least a portion of said handle; and

a slider configured and arranged to be slidably positioned within each of said channels of said plurality of differently sized tibial sizers, wherein each of said tibial sizers includes:

a first set of markings for indicating the amount of exposed bone between a posterior proximal portion of a tibia and a posterior edge of said head of said tibial sizer;

a second set of markings for indicating a suggested size of tibial base plate with respect to an anterior/posterior direction; and

a third set of markings, wherein said third set of markings include indicia on said slider representing different sizes of tibial base plates, wherein said third set of markings are not visible when said slider is inserted within said channel of said handle, but said third set of markings are visible when said slider is used without said handle, whereby said slider may be used for determining a suggested size of tibial base plate, with respect to the anterior/posterior direction, without inserting said slider into one of said channels.

Claim 20 (currently amended): ~~The tibial sizer as defined in Claim 1~~ Claim 7, wherein said channel includes a pair of upper lips, in at least a portion of said head and at least a portion of said handle, for maintaining said slider within said channel.

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Claim 21 (currently amended): The tibial sizer as defined in ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 7, wherein said channel extends through the entire length of said tibial sizer.